

**Department of Public Works and Transportation  
Montgomery County, Maryland**

***DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES***



SORRT STAFF MEMBER PROVIDES RECYCLING INFORMATION TO A  
PARENT AT CEDAR GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FALL FAIR.

***MONTHLY REPORT  
SEPTEMBER 2002***



*Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper*

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# **OVERVIEW**

## **Tonnage at a Glance**

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2003 began July 1, 2002.)

<b>FACILITY</b>	<b>Sep FY 03</b>	<b>FY 03 Total</b>	<b>Sep FY 02</b>	<b>Sep FY 01</b>
Materials Recovery Facility <sup>(1)</sup>	6,917 tons	20,557 tons	6,290 tons	6,438 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility <sup>(2)</sup>	19,588 tons	65,016 tons	18,525 tons	10,663 tons
Resource Recovery Facility <sup>(4)</sup>	53,434 tons	164,062 tons	51,259 tons	40,092 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	3,198 tons	8,979 tons	3,058 tons	3,226 tons

<sup>(1)</sup>MRF tons reported are outgoing.

<sup>(2)</sup>This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled.

<sup>(4)</sup>RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here.

## **Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation** – During September, program staff:

- Received and researched 36 inquires regarding solid waste fees on the property tax bill.
- Logged an additional 61 appeal applications for nonresidential system benefit charges, and completed processing of 45 applications.
- Continued training new property database quality assurance manager.
- Issued monthly hauler credit account bills without a glitch.
- Continued improvements to track wire transfers including useful federal website.
- Worked with haulers to get them to review and pay their bills via the internet.
- Worked with Assistant County Attorney to go after surety bond on one hauler.
- Worked with another hauler to catch up on past due payments.
- Sent 5 changes to SDAT for updating; received 5 changes back from SDAT for reviewing.
- Entered 7 billing data correction changes in the TXA 170 system.
- Processed 3 vacancy refunds.
- Researched database on governmental properties.
- Updated service household counts by collection contract area.
- Reviewed daily cashier procedures at the Transfer Station.

- Received all remaining 6-month licensed collector tonnage reports and completed entering results into database.
- Began field audits of 6-month hauler reports.
- Gathered other data needed for FY02 County-wide material flow analysis.
- Drafted changes to Chapter 48 to consolidate billing provisions.
- Met with related agencies to coordinate leaf vacuuming accounting.
- Continued assisting in training the new budget manager.
- Continued assisting in preparation of FY04 budget.
- Created forecast of service house counts and collection costs by contract area.
- Assessed County cost increases caused by externalities in long-term contracts in relation to OMB budget guidance.
- Drafted a Collection Fund Retained Earnings Policy.

## **CITIZEN COMMITTEES**

**Facilities Implementation Group** – FIG met on September 10<sup>th</sup> at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson. Eleven FIG members, six County staff, six contract staff and two residents of the area were in attendance. Topics discussed included the Non-air media Monitoring Program; Historical Interpretation Plan; ISO 14001 Update and Landfill Permit Renewal. Don Wullom was elected as the new Chairman. The next FIG meeting will be held on November 12, 2002, at the Gothic Barn in Dickerson. Topics on the agenda include the monitoring done by DEP at the facilities.

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee** – SWAC met Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, in the EOB 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room. Eleven SWAC members, seven County staff and two guests were in attendance. DSWS staff gave a presentation on Solid Waste Enforcement, Collections, Collections Business Process and Probable Issues for SWAC. Four SWAC members provided comments on the 10-Year Solid Waste Plan Update; all comments were discussed. The Committee discussed the issue of modifying procedures for changing the boundaries of the Solid Waste Collection District; a letter with SWAC's recommendations on the changing of boundaries will be sent to the County Council and County Executive. This issue is tentatively scheduled to be addressed by the Council's T&E Committee on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **COLLECTIONS**

**Refuse** – Refuse collections went as scheduled for the month of September. Collections were made without incident. We had a holiday, Labor Day, which required a slide week with collections on Saturday.

**Contractor Performance** – During the month of September, DSWS received 563 complaints. This represented a 2 count decrease from September 2001, which had 565 complaints.

**Recycling** – Mixed paper tonnages for the residential program during the last 60 weeks are as follows:

CURRENT PERIOD	POUNDS PER HOUSEHOLD	CORRESPONDING PERIOD PREVIOUS YEAR
10/29/01-11/23/01	10.83	11.39
11/26/01-12/21/01	11.52	11.49
12/24/01-1/18/02	9.58	9.51
1/21/02-2/15/02	9.01	9.78
2/18/02-3/15/02	9.02	9.41
3/18/02-4/12/02	9.73	9.87
4/15/02-5/10/02	9.81	9.68
5/13/02-6/07/02	9.58	10.19
6/10/02-7/05/02	9.21	9.21
7/08/02-8/02/02	8.74	8.62
8/05/02-8/30/02	9.24	9.10
9/02/02-9/27/02	10.15	10.08
9/30/02-10/25/02		11.10

**Customer Service** – DSWS received 8,763 incoming calls and 173 follow-up calls were made for quality check. There were 1,027 blue bins delivered and 430 e-mail requests handled by the Customer Service Staff.

**Enforcement Actions** – Four citations were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Two citations	Not having a valid collectors tag attached	\$1250
One citation	Deposit solid wastes upon a public highway	\$ 500
One citation	Collection without a valid collectors license	\$ 750

Nine NOV's were issued for violations of the County's Solid Waste Laws:

Three NOV's	Collection without a valid collectors license
Two NOV's	Transportation of solid wastes without a tarp or canvas
Two NOV's	Improperly stored or permitted solid wastes to accumulate
One NOV	Failed to store solid wastes in an approved container
One NOV	Dump, deposit or leave at other than a acceptance facility

## **WASTE MINIMIZATION**

**Bicycle Recycling** – In September, 0.79 tons of bikes were picked up by Pedals for Progress.

**Computer Recycling** – Approximately 43 tons of computers were recycled.

## **Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities**



– The Green Man Show for Cable Channel 6 had field segments logged and edited for release in October. Programming is supported by the new website [greenmanshow.com](http://greenmanshow.com), which provides information on scheduling, future programs, links to Green Man articles, and allows viewers to suggest story ideas. After several programs have aired this fall, past shows will become available as “digital-on-demand,” allowing website users to download past shows – and allowing us to inventory a large number of topics, both in print and streaming video.

Our aggressive (and popular) advertising campaign will resume with an emphasis on fall lawn care issues, such as aerating, mulching leaves into lawn areas, proper fertilizing, and home composting.



The Green Man column with recommendations on alternative (resource conserving) landscaping continues in several Maryland editions of The Gazette Newspapers and on the web at both <http://www.gazette.net/columnists/> and [greenman@askdep.com](mailto:greenman@askdep.com).

Composting and worm composting workshops are being scheduled for garden clubs, homeowner associations, and Master Gardener Training Programs.

## **HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS**

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection** – There were two HHW events in September; on the 15<sup>th</sup> at the Transfer Station and on the 29<sup>th</sup> at the Germantown Upcounty Government Services Center. The events were attended by 860 and 308 patrons, respectively.

At the above events, DSWS continued its program to collect mercury (Hg) thermometers and give out digital thermometers.

Revised shop drawings for the roof over the HHW compound were resubmitted for review by DSWS’ design consultant.

**Small Quantity Generator Ecowise Program** – One Small Quantity Generator (SQG)/Ecowise event was held on September 11<sup>th</sup>; 9 businesses participated.

## **AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS**

**Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEMS Tracking of RRF Operations** – The Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) continued to track the percent load, certain engineering parameters and emissions of all three units. The system recorded

emissions from all three units throughout the month. All three units were operating at nearly 100% load. There were no equipment malfunctions in September that affected RRF operations or stack emissions. No Code Red days were forecasted in September.

In September, MDE conducted field inspections at the RRF site. On September 12<sup>th</sup>, NPDES field inspection was conducted. On September 17<sup>th</sup>, an inspector from the Air and Radiation Management Administration conducted the air permit compliance inspection. On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, solid waste inspection was conducted; minor issues were noted. MDE will mail copies of the inspection reports to the RRF in a few weeks.

Andy Cubley, DSWS, and Steve Jennes, Covanta, performed the monthly "Opacity Test" on September 17<sup>th</sup>; both are certified inspectors. The opacity test is a requirement under Title V of the RRF Air Permit. As in past tests, the opacity readings were 0% compared to the Title V Permit limit of 10%.

Annual stack test for the RRF is scheduled from October 21-30, 2002. TESTAR, Inc. of Raleigh, N.C., will be conducting the stack testing and RATA. This testing is required by Title V Air Permit. DSWS is currently reviewing the test protocol.

In the first week of September, the set of four CEMS CD-ROM's was updated to include CEMS data up to August 31, 2002. Copies of the CD-ROM's were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to FIG -SWAC Air Quality Sub-committee.

**FIG-SWAC Air Quality Subcommittee** – A meeting of the Air Quality Subcommittee was held on September 9<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the Non-Air Media Report. ENSR gave a one-hour presentation to the Subcommittee. Based on the Subcommittee's suggestions, a modified presentation was prepared and ENSR presented to FIG on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology** – For the entire month of September, the leachate evaporator was shutdown. The ground-flare without leachate evaporation was operating for 19 days. The backup flare operated for 9 days and was off-line for 2 days. Bentech is still continuing its efforts to implement an electrical generating facility.

**Contracts and RFP's** - The ENSR contract was extended until February 15, 2003. ENSR will be completing the ongoing studies on the RRF Non-Air Media Monitoring Program and Fall Air Sampling Program.

The Office of Procurement is currently reviewing the RFP that was submitted in August for a replacement contractor when ENSR completes the ongoing programs in February.

## **RECYCLING**

**Public Outreach** – The Recycling Task Force met on September 18<sup>th</sup>. The eight-minute video on what happens to recyclables and the importance of buying recycled has been completed and is being duplicated for distribution. Staff made a presentation on recycling to the Montgomery County League of Women's Clubs. Staff worked on the

COG Recycling Subcommittee on Outreach to finalize four 30 second radio spots for the regional ad campaign on recycling. This campaign will run October 7-20, 2002.

**Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction** – Staff continued to perform on-site visits to businesses in September and resolved several complaints. Staff distributed recycling information at 11 special events. Proposals were submitted and reviewed for conducting two business recycling seminars to be held in November and for updating and translating outreach materials in Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean and French.

**Multi-Family Recycling** – The new Program Manager of the Multi-Family Recycling Program will begin October 7, 2002. Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs and work with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support.

**Mixed Paper Recycling** – New illustrated and translated outreach pieces, including a flyer, 2 brochures and a booklet, highlight the do's and don'ts of mixed paper recycling at the curb.

**Volunteer Activities** – Four volunteers assisted at the HHW collection held at the Transfer Station this month. In addition, 8 volunteers provided almost 35.5 hours of assistance at Manchester Farms Community Day, Poolesville Day, Health and Fitness Picnic, Germantown Oktoberfest, Gaithersburg Olde Town Day, Burtonsville Day celebration events, as well as speaking to the Active Retirees of Kehilat Shalom-Montgomery Village and assisting in the office preparing mailings of recycling information.

## **PILOT PROGRAMS**

The September totals for the Potomac Paper Cart program are:

9/5/02	22,120 lbs.	27.31 lbs. per household
9/11/02	13,860 lbs.	17.11 lbs. per household
9/18/02	15,800 lbs.	19.51 lbs. per household
<u>9/25/02</u>	<u>15,840 lbs.</u>	<u>19.56 lbs. per household</u>
Total	<u>67,620 lbs.</u>	20.87 lbs. average per household for September 2002

The current average weight per house for the 51 weeks of the cart program is 20.01 lbs. as opposed to 13.99 lbs. per house prior to the program. This represents a 43.03% increase in the mixed paper capture rate since the start of the cart program.

## **FACILITY ACTIVITIES**

**Resource Recovery Facility** – Of the 53,434 tons processed in September, 506 tons were reject material from the Compost Facility. Trash deliveries have declined to around 11,700 ton/week. The end of this month marks the end of the summer

generation period. For the most part, the facility ran a 3 boiler operation at full load except for weekends and the Labor Day holiday. During these times load was reduced to manage the pit levels and maximize electric revenues.

There were no significant safety incidents during the month. The facility continues to operate with no OSHA recordable accidents in over 910 days.

There were no generation emergencies issued by Mirant during the month of September; there was no need to purchase power during the month.

There were no Forecasted Ozone-Code Red alert days in September.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Rich Wolters of MDE performed a NPDES inspection on September 12<sup>th</sup>; minor issues were noted.
- Steve Lang of MDE performed an annual air quality inspection on September 17<sup>th</sup>; minor issues were noted.
- Thomas MacCubbin of MDE performed a solid waste inspection on September 23<sup>rd</sup>; no issues were noted.
- Submitted the August 2002 Potable Water Monthly Operating Report to MDE.
- Performed preliminary pH/metals analysis of ash to determine optimum dolomitic lime addition rate.
- The monthly visible emission (Method 9) observation required by the RRF's Title V permit was performed on September 17, 2002.
- The CEMS technician, Syl Ebron, submitted updated CD-ROM's to the County that included data for August 2002.

**Materials Recovery Facility** – Approximately 1,769 tons of commingled material were shipped out, and approximately 5,148 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

Installation of the new processing equipment was completed, and the plant started running material through the system prior to acceptance testing.

ICF Consulting was the successful bidder and was given a Notice to Proceed for developing and installing a new display wall explaining the processing system, to be located in the information center. Potomac, Inc. was the successful bidder to develop a brochure explaining the new processing system.

A second toilet was added to the ladies' rest room.

Silt was removed from the storm water discharge pond behind the building.

All the exterior doors on the buildings were painted.

**Oaks Landfill** – SCS Field Services continued design and field assessment for pipe replacement and system upgrades to the landfill gas management system. SCS

researched several instrumentation and materials issues raised by the current landfill gas management system contractor.

An IFB for subdividing the leachate storage lagoons to facilitate long-term maintenance is under review at the Office of Procurement.

**Gude Landfill** – Highway and Safety Services, Inc. performed work to improve drainage at several ponded areas. Minor corrections to completed work, assessed after a recent rainfall event, will be performed this fall.

**Beantown Dump** – SCS Field Services completed installation of 58 passive landfill gas venting wells in Phase I of the project. A second phase which includes the installation of 30 additional gas venting wells will occur in 2003, when the site currently being improved is complete, and wells can be installed.

**Transfer Station** – During September, Covanta shipped via rail 47,902 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the RRF; 1,212 more tons than shipped in September 2001.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

All storm water ceptors (oil/grit interceptors) were cleaned out.

The fence at the scrap metal area was repaired.

Compactor #3 was taken out of service for routine repairs.

The radiation detectors had 18 alarms in September including 5 false alarms (alarms that could not be re-verified) - all of the valid alarms were identified as medical isotopes with short half-lives, and as such, all medically related waste material was accepted.

**Site 2 Landfill Properties** – DFS is sending the draft lease to the County Attorney's office for review.

**Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan** – The draft report is complete and copies have been sent to FIG members.

**Yard Trim Compost Facility** – In September, 3,198 tons of grass were delivered at the Yard Trim Facility for composting; 506 tons of debris was sent to the RRF.

Permits have been secured for the fire hydrant installation and the water lines.

**Bagging Operation** – In September, 32,900 bags of Leafgro were shipped to distributors. (Each bag is 1.5 cubic ft. weighing 45 lbs.)

**Linden Farm Renovations** – Under the signed bagging agreement between SCA and the County, the County is to renovate the Feed and Bank Barns. The renovation work is

complete. The painting of the barns and silos has been completed. Roof repair work on the Gothic Barn is in progress.

### **Out-of-County Haul**

**Brunswick County, Virginia** – During the month of September, about 14,587 tons of ash residue and 5,001 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. (BWMF) Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. About 399 tons of material was recycled at Clean Earth in Hagerstown, MD, including 14 tons of straight tree sections. BWMF corporate officers completed review of an amendment to add five additional Nonprocessable Waste container/chassis combinations to assist with increasing waste volumes. The amendment was returned to the County for final review and approval by the Office of Procurement.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Important Telephone Numbers**

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	301-840-2370 (County Office) 301-590-1032 (Covanta)
Materials Recovery Facility	301-840-2701 (County Office) 301-417-1447 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6494 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	<a href="http://www.mcrecycles.org">www.mcrecycles.org</a>

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

Theresa Souders  
Department of Public Works and Transportation  
Division of Solid Waste Services  
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor  
Rockville, MD 20850  
Tel: 240-777-6425  
Fax: 240-777-6465  
E-mail: [Theresa.Souders@co.mo.md.us](mailto:Theresa.Souders@co.mo.md.us)

## **SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL**

<b>TOPIC OR FACILITY</b>	
Latest Recycling Rate Reported in Montgomery County	37.2% (FY01)
Recycling Goal	45% by December 2002 50% by December 2004
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 TPD on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations limited to receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY01 tons received- 59,643
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	84,865
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	201,961
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

## GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CDL	Commercial Driver's License
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CFR	Code of Federal Regulation
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
LFG	Landfill Gas
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MCR	Maximum Continuous Rating
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
Mg/l	milligrams per liter
M-NCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NEA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPS	Office Paper Systems
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RATA	Relative Accuracy Test Audit
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SHA	State Highway Administration
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SDAT	State Department of Assessments and Taxation
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TXA170	Computer Interface Program
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UT	Ultra-sonic Testing
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility